## OFFICE OF THE SELECTMAN



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March 23, 2020

Voluntown Residents,

As we move into another week of Covid-19 related changes, I am hoping that all is well with everyone. It is not easy to adjust to changes in routine, and even harder when those changes include no work and no school. I know that Voluntown has always been a town full of neighbors who look out for each other, and I know this will continue. I am currently working on a list of resources that will be on the town website when completed. In the meantime, if you or a neighbor needs assistance with food or anything else, please call 2-1-1 or the Selectmen's office for guidance (leave a message, we will be back in touch).

At Town Hall we have cut back on our office time even more starting this week. All staff is working from home as much as possible. For staff that needs to access their office, social distancing is practiced. All staff can be reached via email and phone messages are responded to. Please check the town website at <a href="https://www.voluntown.gov">www.voluntown.gov</a> for department contact information and department changes. Public Work employees are still working regular hours.

Due to changes that Governor Lamont has made in how meetings are held, we have been working on updating our technology to comply. All board and commission meetings are public meetings. We need to make sure that the public has remote access to all meetings whether it be by conference call, livestreaming, or both. We almost have the kinks out, and we should be ready to put meetings back on the calendar within the upcoming weeks. It will be posted on agendas how to access meetings remotely.

We have decided that starting tomorrow, March 24<sup>th</sup>, we will only be accepting tax payments via online or through the mail. For more information on making payments, please visit the Tax Collector page on the website.

Starting at 8pm tonight, non-essential businesses and non-profits will be closing temporarily to limit person to person contact. Most of our businesses in town are considered 'essential' so please support them! Grocery stores will remain open and there is no worry of them closing. We encourage everyone to 'Stay Home, Stay Safe'. For accurate and up to date Covid-19 information, I suggest that everyone refer to Governor Lamont's Frequently Asked Questions on the State of Connecticut's Actions Related to Covid-19. This can be accessed on the town website homepage and is updated daily. We will get through this together.

Sincerely, Tracey Hanson First Selectman